

REMARKS

The Rejections under 35 USC § 103(a)

The pending claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over various combinations of Korean Patent Application Publication No. 1020020078535 to *Shin* (“*Shin*”), U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0026125 to *Yamazaki et al.* (“*Yamazaki 1*”), U.S. Patent No. 5,847,792 to *Kobayashi et al.* (“*Kobayashi*”), and U.S. Patent No. 6,013,930 to *Yamazaki et al.* (“*Yamazaki 2*”). Applicant respectfully traverses, noting that none of the references, singly or in combination, discloses every element of the claims as amended. More specifically, none discloses a partition disposed directly on both a data wire and a pixel electrode, and defining a predetermined area in which an organic EL layer is disposed. Furthermore, *Kobayashi* teaches away from both *Shin* and *Yamazaki 1*, and also teaches away from Applicants’ claims.

Neither *Shin* nor *Yamazaki 1* discloses a partition disposed directly on both a data wire and a pixel electrode, and defining a predetermined area in which an organic EL layer is disposed (Office Action, p. 3). *Yamazaki 2* does not appear to disclose any partition at all, let alone one that is disposed directly on both a data wire and a pixel electrode, or that defines an area for an organic EL layer.

Kobayashi also does not cure this deficiency. First, the first shielding film 10 is not a partition, nor could it be reasonably construed as a partition by one of ordinary skill in the art. Shielding film 10 does not act as a partition – rather, it acts to block light (e.g., Col. 8:11-23). Additionally, shielding film 10 does not appear to define any area for deposition of any layer. Shielding film 10 is, at most, a light shielding layer, not a partition. Second, *Kobayashi* does not disclose any structure that defines any area for an organic EL layer. *Kobayashi* does not appear to disclose any organic EL layer at all. Thus, the first shielding film 10 of *Kobayashi* does not define any area for disposition of any organic EL layer. Indeed, *Kobayashi* neither discloses nor suggests any component that defines any area for disposition of any layer. Accordingly, *Kobayashi* does not disclose any partition, and thus cannot disclose a partition that is disposed directly on both a data wire and a pixel electrode. Additionally, *Kobayashi* does not disclose any organic EL layer. Thus, even if it disclosed a partition, such a partition does not define any area for an organic EL layer.

Claim 1 is thus patentable over each of these references, singly or in combination, for at least the reason that it recites “an organic EL layer disposed . . . in a predetermined area,”

where this predetermined area is defined by “a partition disposed directly on both the data wire, and the pixel electrode.”

Finally, *Kobayashi* teaches away from its combination with *Shin* and *Yamazaki 1*, and also teaches away from Applicants’ claims. *Shin* and *Yamazaki 1* both teach light emitting devices in which illumination is provided by the EL element of each pixel (e.g., Abstracts, *Shin* and *Yamazaki 1*). Similarly, Applicants’ claim 1 recites an organic electroluminescent display. In contrast, *Kobayashi* teaches a liquid crystal display that does not contain any light emitting devices, but instead utilizes a separate backlight as a source of illumination (e.g., Abstract). That is, *Shin* and *Yamazaki 1* both teach displays whose individual pixels generate their own light, while *Kobayashi* teaches displays whose pixels do not provide any illumination, but instead rely on light from a separate backlight. Accordingly, *Kobayashi* teaches away from both *Shin* and *Yamazaki 1*, and also teaches away from Applicants’ claims, and thus does not form the basis for a proper obviousness rejection.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, claims 1-6 and 10-13 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-5029. Please telephone the undersigned attorney at (408) 331-1671 if there are any questions.

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